

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. In an interactive home computing and entertainment system including a conventional home TV for presenting to a home user a plurality of TV programs provided over the respective TV channels, an Internet enabled computer having a Web browser, and a remote control means having the functions of a conventional TV/VCR remote control device, each said TV channel being provided with a designated Web site for providing a Web content in association with the TV program thereon, a computer-implemented method for receiving the Web content associated with the current TV program via the Internet in synchronization with the broadcasting of the current TV program, said method comprising the steps of:

in response to the transmission of a TV-operation signal from said remote control means for controlling said home TV, retrieving the Web site address of the current TV channel's designated Web site;

sending a request via the Internet to said current TV channel's Web site for requesting the Web content associated with the current TV program provided over said current TV channel; and

receiving the Web content associated with the current TV program from said current TV channel's designated Web site via the Internet.

2. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said TV-operation signal includes a TV channel selection signal transmitted from said remote control means for selecting a new TV channel.

3. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said TV-operation signal includes a TV power-on signal transmitted from said remote control means for turning on the TV power.

4. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of storing the Web site address of the current Web content associated with the current TV program in said computer's data storage means in response to the transmission of a TV power-off signal from said remote control means for turning off the TV power.

5. The method as set forth in Claim 4, wherein said TV-operation signal includes a TV power-on signal transmitted from said remote control means for turning on the TV power, and wherein said step of retrieving the Web site address includes retrieving the Web site address previously saved while the TV power being turned off.

6. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of adding said Web content associated with the current TV program into said computer Web browser's bookmark list in response to the transmission of a bookmark signal from said remote control means.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said Web content includes at least one Web page for providing information about said current TV program.

8. A method of transmitting a segment of Web content from a Web site to a client computer connected thereto via the Internet in synchronization with the broadcasting of a specific segment of a TV program from a TV broadcast system, said Web content being associated with said TV program, said segment of Web content being associated with said specific segment of the TV program, said method comprising the steps of:

Sending a synchronization signal from said TV broadcast system to said Web site while broadcasting said specific segment of the TV program;

In response to said Web site receiving said synchronization signal, sending said segment of Web content from said Web site to said client computer connected thereto via the Internet.

9. A method as set forth in Claim 8, wherein said segment of Web content includes at least one Web page.

10. A method as set forth in Claim 8, wherein said Web content includes a stream of actuation-control data for controlling the body part movement of an Internet-enabled talking doll controlled by said client computer, and wherein said segment of Web content includes a segment of said actuation-control data stream for controlling a specific movement of the body part of said Internet-enabled talking doll in synchronization with the broadcasting of said specific segment of the TV program.

11. A method as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said Web site includes means for causing sequential transmission of said actuation-control data stream therefrom to said client computer connected thereto via the Internet.

12. A method of transmitting a segment of Web content from a Web site to a client computer connected thereto via the Internet in synchronization with the broadcasting of a specific segment of a TV program from a TV broadcast system, said Web content being associated with said TV program, said segment of Web content being associated with said specific segment of the TV program, said method comprising the steps of:

providing broadcast synchronization means to said TV broadcast system for sending a synchronization signal therefrom to said Web site while broadcasting said specific segment of the TV program;

providing Web site synchronization means to said Web site for instructing said Web site to send said segment of Web content to said client computer connected thereto via the Internet in response to said Web site receiving said synchronization signal.